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1 department, one thousand nine hundred twenty-seven New Mexico
2 children were adopted; and

3 WHEREAS, the number of children, youth and families
4 department adoptive placements annually increased one hundred
5 thirty-seven percent between 1995 and 2002; and

6 WHEREAS, although that increase in adoptions represents
7 substantial progress, there are still many New Mexico children
8 who need permanent and loving homes; and

9 WHEREAS, the children, youth and families department
10 continues to strive to raise public and legislative awareness
11 about the need for homes for many of New Mexico's children who
12 await adoption; and

13 WHEREAS, on February 21, 2003, staff members of the
14 children, youth and families department and New Mexico children
15 from around the state who need adoptive homes, along with their
16 foster parents, will be present at the state capitol in order
17 to raise awareness among the legislators about the crucial need
18 for adoptive homes;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 21, 2003 be designated
21 "Adoption Day at the Legislature"; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the children, youth and families department.